From:	info@gfp.sd.us
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Cc:	Comes, Rachel
Subject:	Petition for Rule Change Form
Date:	Tuesday, April 16, 2019 4:34:16 PM

South Dakota - Game, Fish, and Parks

Petition for Rule Change

A new form was just submitted from the http://gfp.sd.gov/ website with the following information:

ID:	69
Petitioner Name:	KEN EDEL
Address:	20 ANACONDA ROAD RAPID CITY, SD 57701
Email:	kpedel@midco.net
Phone:	605- 348-1470
Rule Identification:	41:07:06:03(5)
Decribe Change:	Rescind the spearing of largemouth and smallmouth bass year-round
Reason for Change:	Spearing of largemouth bass in Pactola was implemented some time in the 1980's. Over the years the spearing pressure of bass has taken its toll on the bass population. For many years Pactola supported a decent bass fishery for traditional anglers, but that no longer exists. The bass population has been depressed for a long time, and comparison data is mostly unavailable that would indicate the decline in the bass population. Bass in Pactola are difficult to obtain data, due to the clear water and bass being relatively net shy. Data does indicate the large population of bluegill and rock bass. Reestablishing the bass population would help control the increasing panfish population. We tend to pass regulations and then forget them, until the negative impact is realized. It takes years to develop a fishery of any species, if the bass are protected, they will rebound and provide opportunity for traditional anglers once again. Pactola has always been a self sustaining bass fishery. As the department is looking for ways to increase angler interest and provide angler opportunity, you have to be willing to make changes that will allow that to happen. This commission has an opportunity to make a regulation change that is long overdue.